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July 21, 2017

John Linc Stine  
Commissioner  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the NorthMet Project

Dear Commissioner Stine:

For nearly a year, Poly Met Mining, Inc. (PolyMet) has been working diligently with the MPCA on the Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the NorthMet mining project. We have been pleased with the process and the progress that we have made during that time.

Unfortunately, the Clean Water Act puts a one-year time limit on the Section 401 certification process. Because that time limit is about to expire, and because PolyMet wants to ensure that the certification process is completed with as much care as possible, we are hereby withdrawing the water quality certification request we made on August 2, 2016.

At the same time, we are confident that the progress that has been made toward water quality certification leaves MPCA close to a final decision. To ensure that progress will continue with no delay, PolyMet asks that this letter also be considered a formal renewal of its request for Section 401 water quality certification, effective today, July 21, 2017.

Thank you again for the work that your agency has done on this project. We look forward to a final decision on the water quality certification issue in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brad Moore", is written over a horizontal line.

Brad Moore

cc: Kenton Spading, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers